THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE C.V. RAMULU

WRIT PETITION NO.22658 of 2005

Dated 20-10-2005

Between:

K. Adi Reddy.

...Petitioner

And

The Depot Manager, APSRTC, Anantapur Depot, Anantapur, and another.

… Respondents

THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE C.V. RAMULU

WRIT PETITION NO.22658 of 2005

O R D E R:

This writ petition is filed seeking to declare the order dated 29-09-1994 passed by the first respondent by imposing punishment of stoppage of two increments with cumulative effect as arbitrary and illegal.

The learned counsel for the petitioner states that the respondents imposed the punishment of stoppage of two increments without conducting a detailed enquiry and that since such punishment is a major punishment, unless and until a detailed enquiry is conducted, the respondents would not have imposed such punishment.

Per contra, the learned counsel for the respondents contends that the order passed by the respondents does not suffer from any irregularity or infirmity since the power of imposing such punishment is vested with the respondent-Corporation.

Be that as it may, since the punishment of stoppage of two increments with cumulative effect is a major punishment, as rightly contended by the learned counsel for the petitioner, it was not open to the respondents to impose such punishment merely based on a summary enquiry. The law is well settled in this regard. In the circumstances, there is no necessity to go into other details. However, to give quietus to the litigation here itself, I am of the opinion that the order of punishment of stoppage of two increments with cumulative effect may be treated as without cumulative effect.

With the above modification, the writ petition is disposed of. No costs.

_____ **(C.V.RAMULU, J)**

Dated:20-10-2005

ghn